

**THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**CHRISTOPHER J. ROZYCKI**

**July 7, 2011**



**DOCKET NO. 2011-107-C**

**APPLICATION OF I-WIRELESS, LLC FOR  
DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN THE  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CHRISTOPHER J. ROZYCKI**

**FOR**

**THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF**

**DOCKET NO. 2011-107-C**

**IN RE: APPLICATION OF I-WIRELESS, L.L.C. FOR DESIGNATION AS AN  
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN THE STATE OF SOUTH  
CAROLINA**

**Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND  
OCCUPATION.**

A. My name is Christopher J. Rozycki and my business address is 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. I am employed by the State of South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") as a Program Manager in the Telecommunications Department.

**Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND  
EXPERIENCE.**

A. I have over thirty (30) years of experience. I have more than twenty (20) years in telecommunications business and regulation and nearly ten (10) years in the regulation of energy industries.

In the telecommunications industry I worked for a major interexchange company, AT&T (before it remerged with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company ("SBC") and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.), two competitive local exchange companies, a competitive broadband/cable TV company, and a telecommunications consulting firm. As my experience grew, I took on roles of

1 increasing responsibility and leadership, often crafting the regulatory policy for  
2 my company and presenting that position in meetings, presentations, formal  
3 comments, and testimony.

4 My testimony and advocacy covered issues involving finance, economics,  
5 rate-of-return, competitive entry, intercarrier compensation and access. I have  
6 also been involved with the startup, development, and funding of  
7 telecommunications companies and other businesses.

8 Additionally, I have worked for the federal government in an energy  
9 regulatory organization (U.S. Department of Energy), and as a public utility  
10 consumer advocate for a county government in Virginia.

11 I hold a master's degree in Economics from George Mason University in  
12 Fairfax, Virginia and a bachelor's degree in Economics from Georgetown  
13 University in Washington, DC.

14 **Q. WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE OFFICE OF**  
15 **REGULATORY STAFF?**

16 **A.** As Telecommunications Program Manager, I am responsible for all  
17 telecommunications activities of ORS including the certification of new  
18 telecommunications entrants, regulation and oversight of existing  
19 telecommunications companies, management of the state universal service and  
20 Interim LEC funds, and administration of the Lifeline Program.

21 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS**  
22 **PROCEEDING?**

1 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present ORS staff findings in response  
2 to the application of i-wireless, LLC (“i-wireless” or “Company”) for designation  
3 as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) in the State of South  
4 Carolina.

5 **Q. ARE THE FINDINGS OF YOUR REVIEW CONTAINED IN THIS**  
6 **TESTIMONY?**

7 A. Yes, my testimony provides ORS’s findings and recommendations.

8 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW YOU COMPILED INFORMATION FOR YOUR**  
9 **TESTIMONY.**

10 A. I compared the information provided by i-wireless’s application and direct  
11 testimony with the requirements contained in the Commission’s regulations 103-  
12 690, which set out the requirements for ETC designation. Additionally, I reviewed  
13 the filings and records maintained in the offices of ORS.

14 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR REVIEW OF THE**  
15 **APPLICATION OF I-WIRELESS FOR ETC DESIGNATION.**

16 A. The application of i-wireless was filed with the Commission on March 9,  
17 2011. ORS’s review of this application identified that i-wireless is seeking ETC  
18 designation in those wire centers covered by Sprint Nextel. i-wireless is currently  
19 providing wireless services throughout South Carolina over the network of its  
20 underlying carrier, Sprint Nextel. The Company is seeking ETC designation  
21 solely for the purpose of obtaining direct Federal Universal Service low-income  
22 support to provide Lifeline credits to its eligible consumers in South Carolina.

1 **Q. IS I-WIRELESS REQUESTING ETC DESIGNATION FOR THE**  
2 **PURPOSE OF RECEIVING FEDERAL HIGH-COST UNIVERSAL**  
3 **SERVICE FUND SUPPORT?**

4 A. No. According to its application, i-wireless is not seeking high-cost  
5 support from the federal universal service fund.

6 **Q. IS I-WIRELESS A FACILITIES-BASED WIRELESS CARRIER?**

7 A. No. i-wireless is a wireless reseller that currently resells the services of  
8 Sprint.

9 **Q. HAS I-WIRELESS OBTAINED FORBEARANCE FROM THE FCC**  
10 **REQUIREMENT THAT A CARRIER DESIGNATED AS AN ETC**  
11 **PROVIDE SERVICES, AT LEAST IN PART, OVER ITS OWN**  
12 **FACILITIES?**

13 A. Yes. i-wireless was granted conditional forbearance on June 25, 2010 by  
14 the FCC in CC Docket No. 96-45 and WC Docket No. 09-197. To meet the  
15 conditions set forth by the FCC, the Company filed a compliance plan with the  
16 FCC on July 26, 2010, and is awaiting final FCC approval of this plan.

17 **Q. DOES THE APPLICATION FILED BY I-WIRELESS COMPLY WITH**  
18 **THE COMMISSION REGULATIONS FOR ETC DESIGNATION?**

19 A. Yes. ORS conducted a thorough review of i-wireless's ETC application  
20 and the Commission requirements governing ETC designation as outlined in S.C.  
21 Code of Regulations 103-690, and the Company's application demonstrates  
22 compliance in all areas.

1   **Q.    HAS I-WIRELESS DEMONSTRATED ITS INTENT TO COMPLY WITH**  
2       **ALL OTHER COMMISSION REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS?**

3    A.        Yes.

4   **Q.    DOES ORS RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF I-WIRELESS'S**  
5       **APPLICATION FOR ETC DESIGNATION?**

6    A.        Yes, ORS recommends the Commission's approval be conditioned such  
7       that i-wireless cannot begin operating as an ETC in South Carolina until the FCC  
8       has approved the i-wireless compliance plan which was submitted for FCC review  
9       and approval on July 26, 2010. As of the date of this testimony, the FCC has not  
10      approved the compliance plan.

11            When approved, i-wireless will expand the availability of Lifeline to  
12      eligible consumers. i-wireless has demonstrated its intent to operate in  
13      accordance with the FCC's and the Commission's regulations governing ETCs  
14      and other applicable Commission rules and regulations governing telephone  
15      utilities operating within South Carolina.

16   **Q.    DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

17   A.        Yes.

**BEFORE**  
**THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DOCKET NO. 2011-107-C**

IN RE:


Application of i-Wireless, LLC for Designation as  
an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the  
State of South Carolina

)  
)  
) **CERTIFICATE OF**  
) **SERVICE**

This is to certify that I, Kelly A. Hanrahan, have this date served one (1) copy of the **DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CHRISTOPHER J. ROZYCKI** in the above-referenced matter to the person(s) named below by causing said copy to be deposited in the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid and affixed thereto, and addressed as shown below:

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Kelly A. Hanrahan

July 7, 2011  
Columbia, South Carolina